

Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program

July 15, 2020

Vermont Agency of Human Services

Mike Smith, Secretary

Overview

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Background and Objective

- The Administration proposed a health care stabilization program with the objective of providing financial assistance to health care and human service providers experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19.
 - The program was proposed as a mechanism to preserve Vermonters' access to health care services during and after the COVID-19 emergency.
- Act 136 of 2020 requires the Agency of Human Services to establish the Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program.
 - The sum of \$275,000,000.00 is appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief Fund and the program shall be administered in accordance with Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act governing the permissible use of Coronavirus Relief Funds.

Eligible Provider Organizations

- Vermont-based health care and human service provider organizations in operation on or before February 1, 2020 will be eligible to receive stabilization grants through this program. Only billing providers are eligible to submit applications.
- A broad array of health care and human service providers are eligible for the program spanning self-employed practitioners to peer services providers to hospitals.

Grant Application Process and Timeline

- AHS will administer two application cycles:
 - July 17th (for the time period March 1, 2020 – June 15, 2020).
 - October (for the time period June 16, 2020 – September 30, 2020).
 - In the event that demonstrated need in the first application cycle exceeds the allocated funding amount, AHS reserves the right to prioritize the distribution of funds in the first cycle.
- For the first cycle, applications should be submitted electronically using the web-based form between July 17, 2020 and August 15, 2020.
 - Dates for a second application cycle are forthcoming.
- All applications will be reviewed after the application period closes.
- Funding determinations will be made based on the total need demonstrated in the applications received, subject to available funding, not on a first-come-first-served basis.

Documentation Required for Grant Application

- In order to complete the application, organizations should prepare the following information:
 - Organizational revenue in 2019 and 2020.
 - COVID-19-related expenses incurred.
 - Financial relief received to date from federal, state, or other sources.
 - Organizational tax information (to facilitate payment processing).
 - Documentation to substantiate revenue, expense, and relief totals included in the application (ex. W-9, income statements, invoices, receipts).

Conditions of Grant Funding

- Grant funds will be expended by December 30, 2020.
- Grant funds will be used to cover costs and lost revenues associated with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) disaster, in accordance with section 601 of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, div. A, Title V (Mar. 27, 2020) (“section 601”).
- Any resulting grant shall be funded with Federal funds and subject to the requirements of Single Audit found at 2 CFR §200 Subpart F.
- If applicable, provider organization will continue participation in value-based payment initiatives beyond 2020.

FOR REFERENCE

Examples of Eligible Provider Types Not an Exhaustive List

Eligible Providers

- Hospitals
- Nursing Homes
- Designated and Specialized Service Agencies
- Private non-medical institutions
- Primary Care Practices
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Rural Health Clinics
- Home Health/Hospice Agencies
- Area Agencies on Aging
- Recovery Centers
- Adult Day Providers
- Independent Specialist Practices (including licensed mental health clinicians and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) providers)
- Ambulance Providers
- Dental Practices
- Enhanced Residential Care (ERC) Providers
- Assistive Community Care Services (ACCS) Providers

Eligible OPR Regulated Providers

- Acupuncturists
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors
- Allied Mental Health
- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Athletic Trainers
- Chiropractic
- Dental Examiners
- Dieticians
- Hearing Aid Dispensers
- Midwives
- Naturopathic Physicians
- Nursing
- Nursing Home Administrators
- Occupational Therapy
- Opticians
- Optometry
- Osteopathic Physicians
- Physical Therapists
- Psychoanalysts
- Psychological Examiners
- Radiologic Technology
- Respiratory Care Practitioners
- Social Workers
- Speech-Language Pathologist